CONSTITUTION

OF THE

UNION LEAGUE

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,

ADOPTED BY THE

COMMITTEE OF TWENTY-FIVE.

WASHINGTON, D. C., JANUARY 11, 1892.

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PREAMBLE.

Believing in the fatherhood God and the brotherhood of man, that no Race or Class should be proscribed on account of color, and that all barriers and discriminations based on race or color should be removed, since they serve to keep alive the prejudice against the colored people to their great injury, we have associated ourselves together and ordained and established this Constitution for the government of ourselves and our successors.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I.

The name of this association shall be the UNION LEAGUE OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

ARTICLE II.

The objects of this association shall be to secure harmony of action and co-operation among all persons who are in favor of the obliteration of color prejudice, in advancing the moral, material, and financial interests of the colored people; to inaugurate and maintain a more fraternal feeling and a closer union among all persons who are opposed to all barriers and discriminations based on race or color; to collect and disseminate among the people such information as will best tend to promote these ends and make such a healthy public sentiment, that color prejudice shall be overcome and the barriers it sets up removed.

ARTICLE III.

Membership.

Any person who is in favor of the objects of the organization as stated in the Preamble and in Art. II., and who conforms to the rules of the association is eligible to membership: Provided three months shall elapse from the date of application before any applicant shall be admitted to full membership. But the Board of Directors may by a majority vote of a full Board order a shorter time in special cases.

ARTICLE IV.

SECTION 1. The officers of the association shall be a President, Vice President, and Recording Secretary, to be elected annully by the members, who, with twelve other members to be elected as hereinafter prescribed shall constitute the Board of Directors, who shall elect annully from their own nnmber a Corresponding or Assistant Secretary, a Treasurer, a Sergeant-at Arms and a Chaplain.

SEC. 2. The Committee of twenty-five, upon the adoption of this constitution, shall elect the officers and other members of the Board of Directors, and of the Advisory Committee who shall serve until the first annual election or until their successors are elected and qualified.

SEC. 3. At the first annual meeting, which shall occur on the second Monday in April, 1892, the members shall elect a President, Vice President, and Secretary to serve one year or until their successors are qualified, and twelve persons to serve on the Board of Directors. Immediately upon assembling, these twelve shall divide themselves into three classes, after the manner in the United States Senate, class one to serve one year, class two to serve two years, class three for three years.

ARTICLE V.

SECTION 1. The duties of the President, Vice President. Secretary, Corresponding or Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, Chaplain, and Sergeant at Arms shall be such as usually appertain to such officers, and such other duties as the Board of Directors shall prescribe.

SEC. 2. The President shall be ex officio Chairman of the Advisory Committee and of all Committees. The Secretary shall receive all funds paid into the association, keep an accurate account of the same and turn them over promptly to the Treasurer, who shall turn over to his successor any balance on hand at the expiration of his term of office.

ARTICLE VI.

SEC. 1. The Board of Directors shall have general supervision over the affairs of the association, authorize the appointment of such additional officers, agents, or committees as it shall deem advisable, order executive sessions of the Board or of the members, fix the compensation of all persons performing service for the association, require bonds from the Secretary and Treasurer and from any other persons they may deem advisable; meet monthly at a stated time and place, and five shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of

routine business. They shall fill all vacancies to serve until the next election, and declare the place of any member of the Board of Directors who shall be absent from three consecutive monthly meetings of the Board without excuse, as vacant; fix the amount of entrance fee, the dues to be paid by members, and provide ways and means for raising and maintaining a fund for carrying on the work of the association; provide for the admission of contributing members; make by-laws by a two-thirds vote, and take any further action which may to them seem advisable, not in conflict with this constitution or of public law, as shall best promote the objects of the association: Provided they shall not involve the association or any of its members in any business enterprise, nor in any political matter, as this is not a business or political association.

ARTICLE VII.

Meetings.

SECTION 1. The association shall meet annually on the second Monday in April of each year for the election of officers, members of the Board of Directors, and for such other business as the Board of Directors may decide to bring before the body.

SEC. 2. The Board of Directors may authorize, under such rules and regulations as they may prescribe, such meetings as they may deem advisable.

SEC. 3. The Secretary or the President may call special meetings of the Board of Directors at any time whenever deemed advisable by either, and must do so at any time at the written request of five members, of said Board.

ARTICLE VIII.

SECTION 1. There shall be an Advisory Committee composed of the President, Secretary and Treasurer and twenty two other members, chosen under the direction of the Board of Directors.

SEC. 2. The Advisory Committee may be called together at the discretion of the Board of Directors to consult and advise upon any matter the Board of Directors may deem advisable, at which time all other members of the Board of Directors may be present and participate in debate, but shall not vote.

ARTICLE IX.

SECTION 1. Each member on joining shall pay an

entrance fee and thereafter stated dues or assessments, the amount to be determined by the By-laws, which shall provide for contributing members, and define their rights.

SEC. 2. The Board of Directors by a two-thirds vote of a full Board shall designate the bank in which the funds of the association shall be deposited and determine the investment of the same.

SEC. 3. No disbursements shall be made unless authorized by the Board of Directors and upon a warrant signed by the President and countersigned by the Secretary.

ARTICLE X.

This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote at any regular, monthly or annual meeting of the association, or at any special meeting called for the purpose: Provided notice of the intention to amend is given at least four weeks previous at a meeting of the association.

ARTICLE XI.

The Board of Directors may authorize and establish

Auxiliary Leagues under such rules and regulations as it may provide.

GEO. W. LEE,	W. H. SCOTT,
CHAS. S. SYPHAX,	R. T. HANSON,
KELLY MILLER,	CHAS. H. BUTLER,
E. M. HEWLETT,	S. B. WALLACE,
J. W. E. BOWEN,	JOHN C. NORWOOD,
W. S. MONTGOMERY,	DAVID A. CLARK,
JAMES E. HUNT,	R. C. DOUGLASS,
JNO. K. RECTOR,	GEO. WM. COOK,
J. H. BUNDAY,	ROBT. H. TERRELL,
D. G. HILL,	R. H. G. DYSON,
J. S. COWLES,	CHAS. R. DOUGLASS,
R. W. TOMPKINS,	JNO. H. SMITH,

ANDREW F. HILYER,
Chairman.